

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT***Ensuring a Fair and Secure Financial Services Marketplace for all Californians*

**Jan Lynn Owen**  
**Commissioner of Business Oversight**

February 20, 2018

Re: Request for a legal opinion under Financial Code section 2010, subdivision (l)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Thank you for your letter dated July 20, 2017, to Robert Venchiarutti, the Deputy Commissioner of the Money Transmitter Division in the Department of Business Oversight. As counsel for the Legal Division, I have been asked to respond to this matter.

Your letter asks whether the California Money Transmission Act (“MTA”) applies to the payment services to be offered by \_\_\_\_\_. Your letter states that \_\_\_\_\_’s proposed business practices should be exempt from the MTA under the agent-of-payee exemption.<sup>1</sup> You provide sample contracts for \_\_\_\_\_’s services with your letter.

The Department intends to propose a regulation concerning the agent-of-payee exemption in the near future. While the Department engages in the rulemaking process, we decline to opine on the applicability of the exemption to \_\_\_\_\_’s proposed payment activity. However, the Department will not require \_\_\_\_\_ to be licensed under the MTA while the rulemaking is pending.

This letter is limited to the facts and circumstances presented to the Department in the correspondence listed above. If any of the facts or circumstances change, the Department’s opinion may also change.

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<sup>1</sup> Fin. Code § 2010, subd. (l).

1515 K Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4052  
(916) 445-7205

One Sansome Street, Suite 600  
San Francisco, CA 94104-4428  
(415) 972-8565

320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 750  
Los Angeles, CA 90013-2344  
(213) 576-7500

1350 Front Street, Room 2034  
San Diego, CA 92101-3697  
(619) 525-4233

45 Fremont Street, Suite 1700  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 263-8500

300 S. Spring Street, Suite 15513  
Los Angeles, CA 90013  
(213) 897-2085

7575 Metropolitan Drive, Suite 108  
San Diego, CA 92108  
(619) 682-7227

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If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at \_\_\_\_\_.

Sincerely,

Jan Lynn Owen  
Commissioner  
Department of Business Oversight

By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manuela Ramsey  
Senior Counsel

MR:bkn